

THE WORLD'S MOST WAY PAST COOL COMIC!



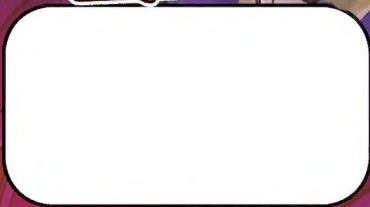
Archie
★ 65th ★
ANNIVERSARY

159 US \$2.25
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SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

Anniversary 2006
15th
SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG
SEGA®



CAN
SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

SURVIVE THE THREAT
DESIGNED BY THOSE
WHO KNOW HIM
BEST?

SYSTEM REBOOT

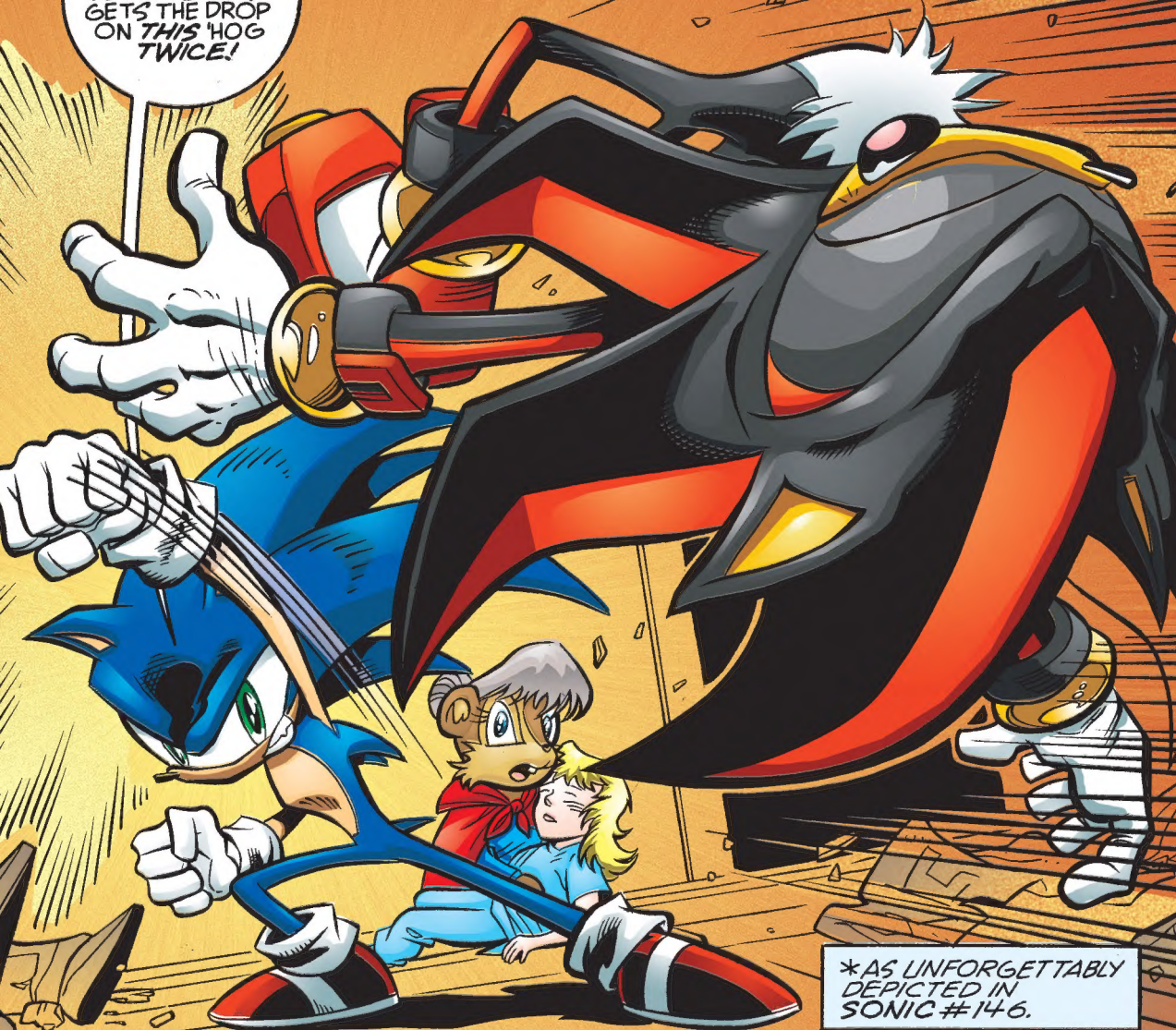
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IF YOU MISSED OUR LAST TWO
ISSUES, JUST BUCKLE UP FOR
THE ACTION AND WE'LL EXPLAIN
AS WE GO ALONG!

EDITOR:
MIKE PELLERITO
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SPECIAL THANKS
TO ROBERT LEFFLER
AND DYNA LOPEZ
AT SEGA LICENSING

YOU GOT
YOUR LICKS IN
LAST TIME--*
BUT NOBODY
GETS THE DROP
ON THIS HOG
TWICE!



*AS UNFORGETTABLY
DEPICTED IN
SONIC #146.



READY TO CALL IT A DAY?



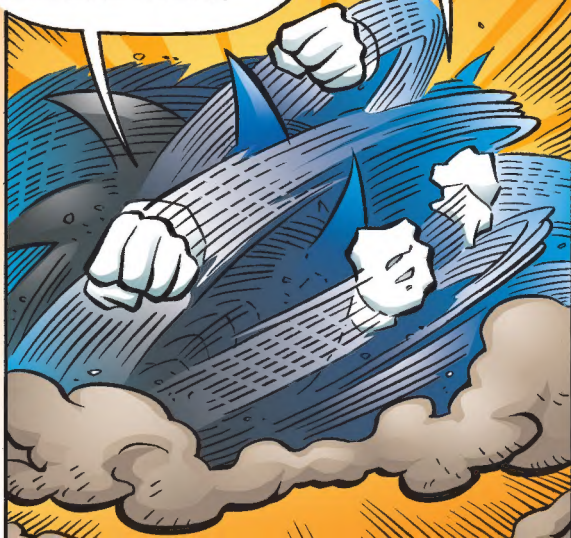
I HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED, HEDGEHOG!



IN CASE YOU HADN'T NOTICED, PAL --I'M NOT ONE OF THE SHINY METALLIC MODELS TRASHING EVERYTHING IN SIGHT!

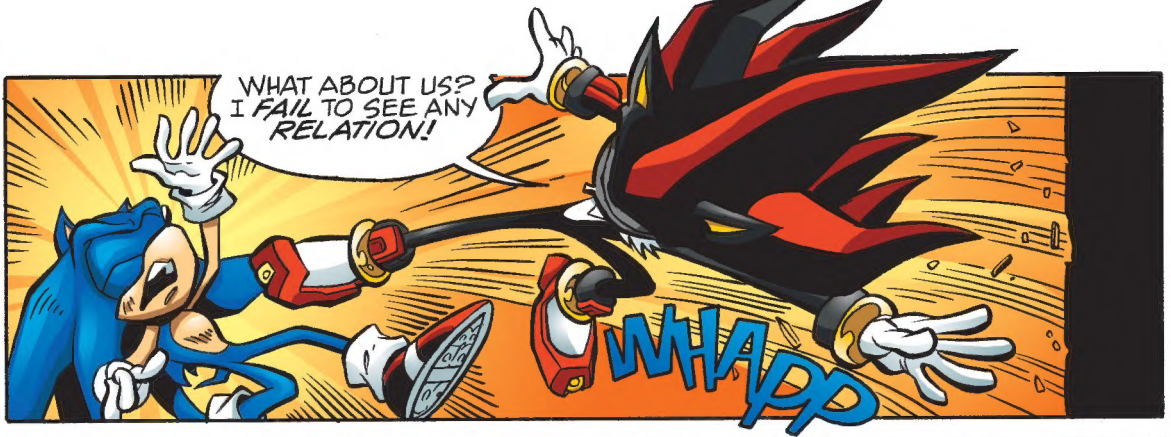
THEN HOW ELSE TO EXPLAIN THEIR VERY LIKENESS OF YOU--WHICH IMPLIES AT LEAST SOME CONNECTION!

YEAH, WELL--

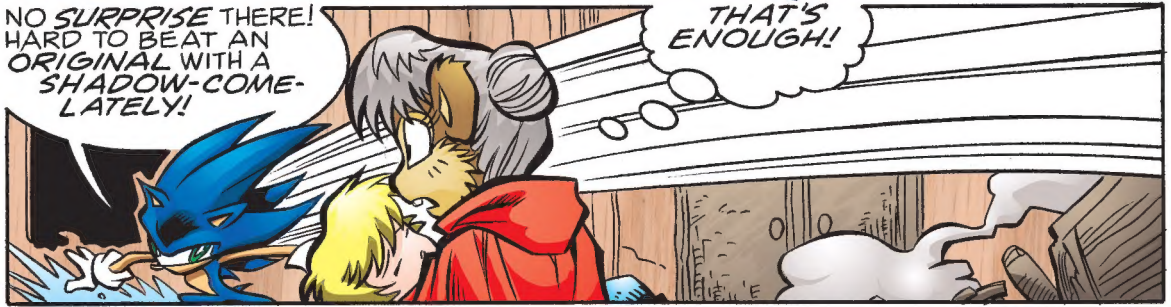


--RESEMBLANCE DOESN'T EQUAL RELATION! TAKE US!





WHAT ABOUT US?
I FAIL TO SEE ANY
RELATION!



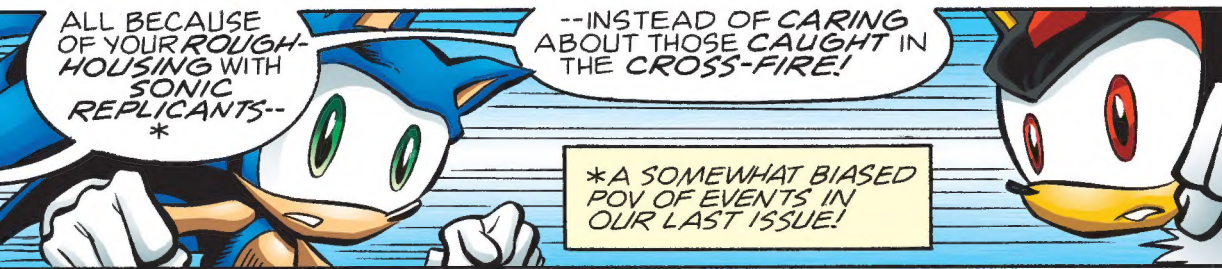
NO SURPRISE THERE!
HARD TO BEAT AN
ORIGINAL WITH A
SHADOW-COME-
LATELY!

THAT'S
ENOUGH!



IN CASE YOU TWO FOOLS
HADN'T NOTICED, THERE'S A
LITTLE GIRL HERE
LYING INJURED--

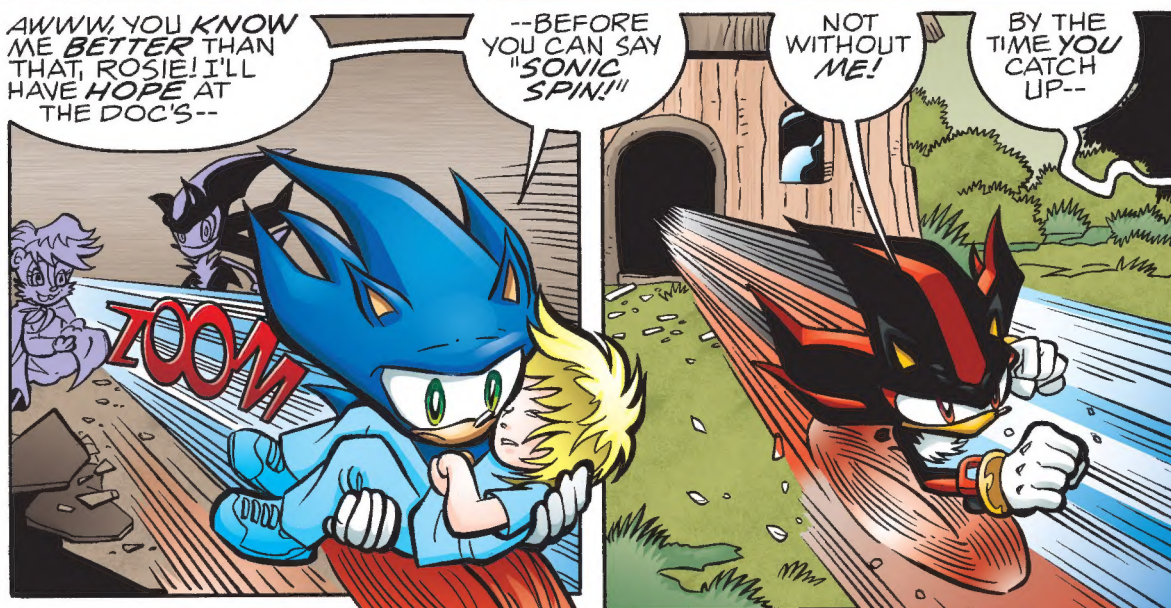
--AND MOST
CERTAINLY
IN NEED
OF MEDICAL
ATTENTION!



ALL BECAUSE
OF YOUR ROUGH-
HOUSING WITH
SONIC
REPLICANTS--
*

--INSTEAD OF CARING
ABOUT THOSE CAUGHT IN
THE CROSS-FIRE!

*A SOMEWHAT BIASED
POV OF EVENTS IN
OUR LAST ISSUE!



AWWW, YOU KNOW
ME BETTER THAN
THAT, ROSIE! I'LL
HAVE HOPE AT
THE DOC'S--

--BEFORE
YOU CAN SAY
"SONIC
SPIN!!"

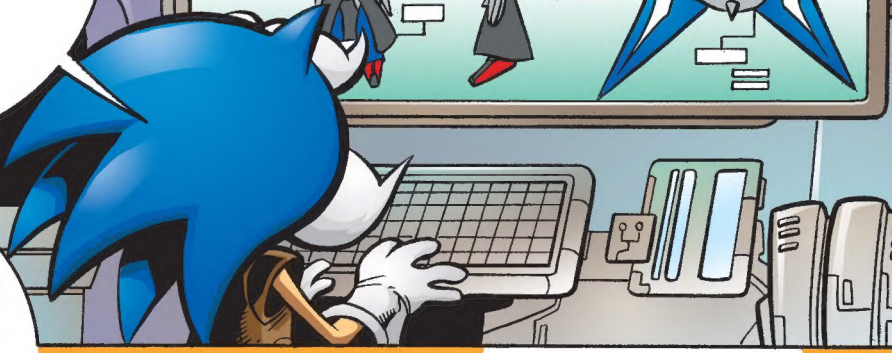
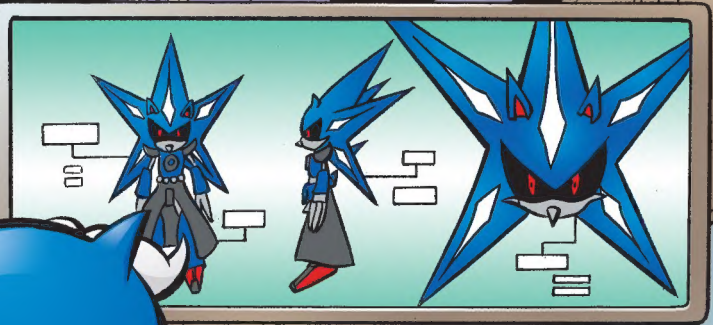
NOT
WITHOUT
ME!

BY THE
TIME YOU
CATCH
UP--

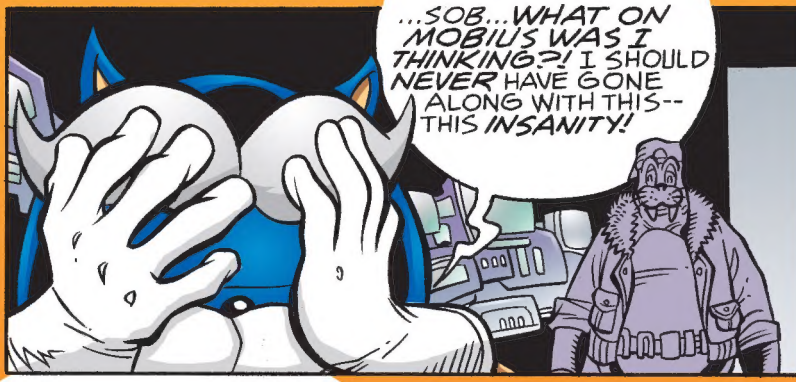
"--SHE'LL BE WITH DOC AT THE CASTLE!..."

OUTER SHELL CONSTRUCTED OF A SPECIAL IRON-TITANIUM ALLOY! ITS HARDWARE WOULD BE STATE-OF-THE-ART, WERE IT NOT FOR THE NANITES! EXACTLY ONE HUNDRED WERE BUILT TO PROTECT THE KINGDOM!

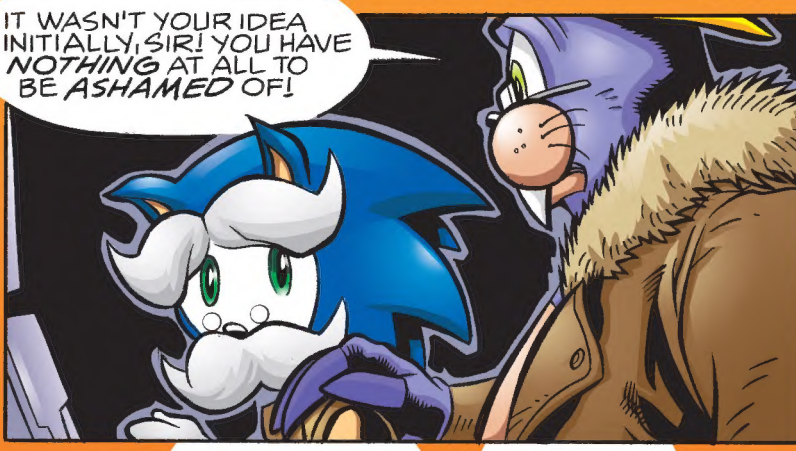
SO NATURALLY, WE DESIGNED THE METAL SONIC TROOPERS IN THE IMAGE OF OUR GREATEST WARRIOR-- WHOM WE BELIEVED HAD FALLEN IN THE LINE OF DUTY!*



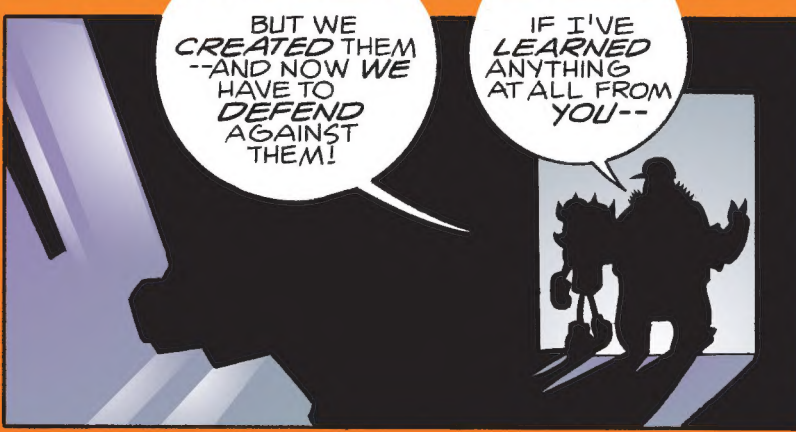
* SIR CHARLES IS REFERRING TO EVENTS DEPICTED IN SONIC #125



...SOB...WHAT ON MOBILUS WAS I THINKING?! I SHOULD NEVER HAVE GONE ALONG WITH THIS-- THIS INSANITY!



IT WASN'T YOUR IDEA INITIALLY, SIR! YOU HAVE NOTHING AT ALL TO BE ASHAMED OF!



BUT WE CREATED THEM --AND NOW WE HAVE TO DEFEND AGAINST THEM!

IF I'VE LEARNED ANYTHING AT ALL FROM YOU--

"--IT'S NOT THE INVENTION THAT CAUSES THE PROBLEM, BUT THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH THE OPERATOR UTILIZES IT."

LOOK AT THEM!!! THE MOST FEARSOME DESTRUCTIVE FORCE YET UNLEASHED ON THE PLANET--

--AND I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!

HOW CAN THIS BE?

YET THEY DESTROYED MY COMMAND CENTER*--AND WHATEVER SOURCE ACTIVATED THEM ALSO COMPROMISED MY SYSTEM SAFEGUARDS! **

*LAST ISSUE
**SONIC # 157.

NOW THEY'RE INVADING KNOT-HOLE--WREAKING HAVOC ON MY MOST HATED OF ENEMIES!

ASTOUNDING!

SUCH DISREGARD FOR LIFE, LIMB, AND PROPERTY! WHAT SUPREME IRONY--

--THAT I, WHO MADE ALL OTHERS TREMBLE, SHOULD NOW BE REDUCED TO THEIR LEVEL--

"--DEPENDENT UPON THAT BLASTED HEDGE-HOG TO SAVE THE DAY..."

I WAS CREATED FOR A PURPOSE STILL UNKNOWN TO ME!

WHAT I DO KNOW IS THERE HAVE BEEN ONLY TWO SENTIENTS WHO HAVE EVER EXPRESSED COMPASSION FOR ME!

I FAILED LONG AGO TO SAVE MARIA--*

*AS SADLY RECORDED IN SONIC # 98.

--BUT SURELY THERE IS SOMETHING I CAN DO TO SAVE HOPE!!!

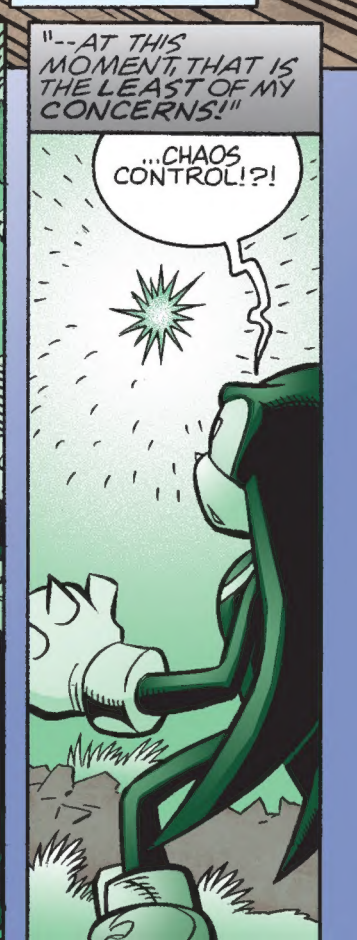
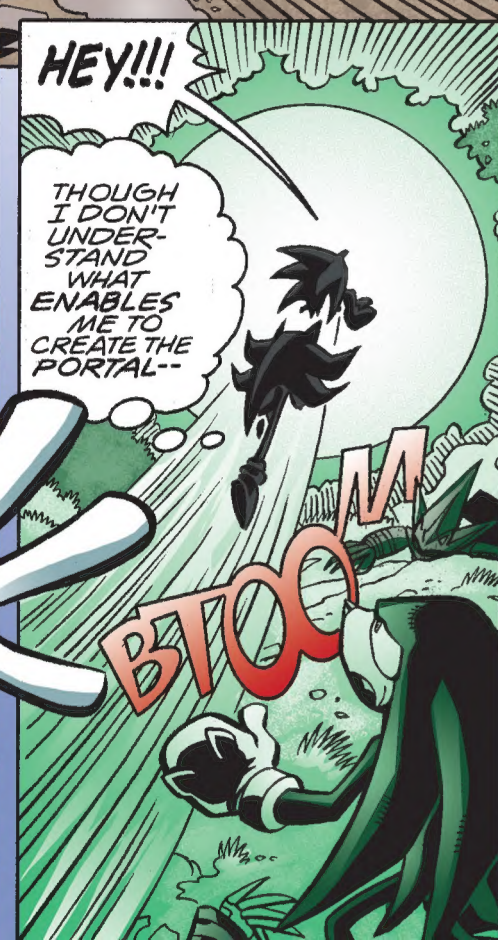
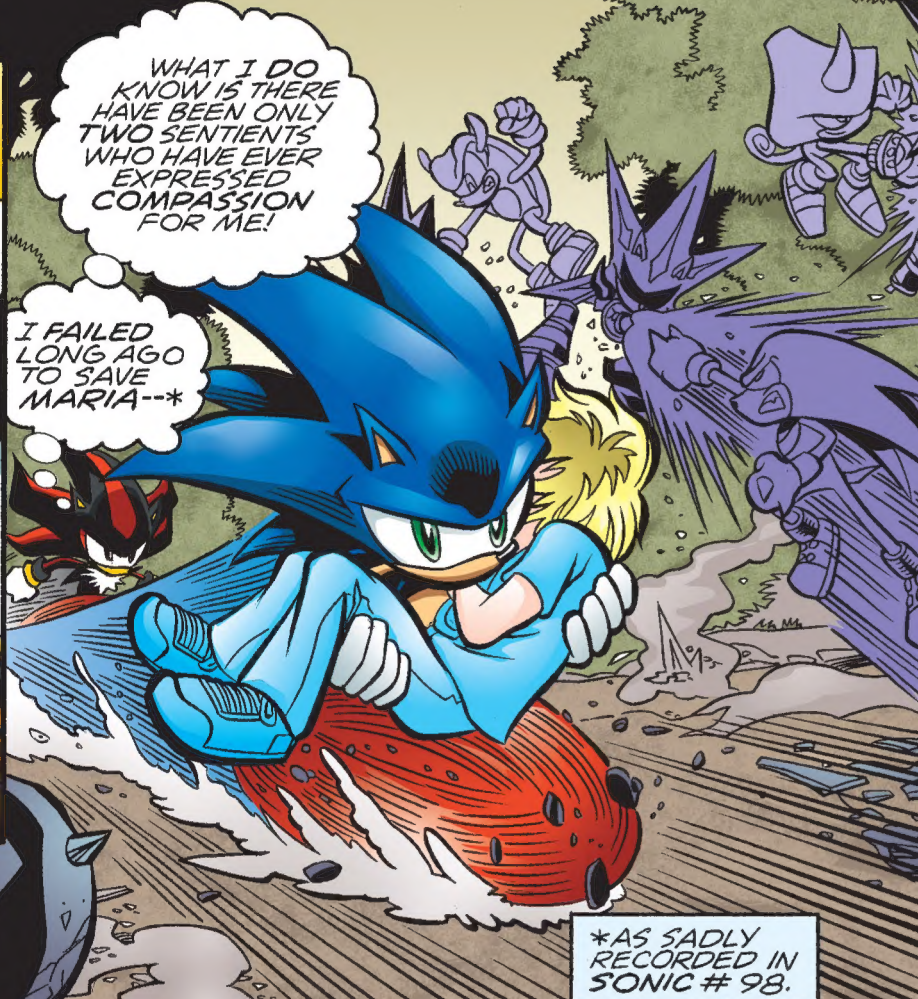
HEY!!!

THOUGH I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT ENABLES ME TO CREATE THE PORTAL--

"--AT THIS MOMENT, THAT IS THE LEAST OF MY CONCERNS!"

...CHAOS CONTROL!?!

BTOOM



MEANWHILE, BACK
AT CASTLE ACORN--
FIVE MINUTES
AGO...

ANY SIGN
OF THE INVADERS,
COMMANDER
D'COOLETTE?

EVERYONE
TO THEIR
STATIONS,
MATES!

NOT YET, SIRE!
CONSIDERING
THE TRACKING
SYSTEM
SHOWS THEM
MOVING TRES FAST
ALA SONIC--

--THE REAL
MYSTERY IS WHY
THEY HAD YET
TO BE SIGHTED!
WHY THE
DELAY?

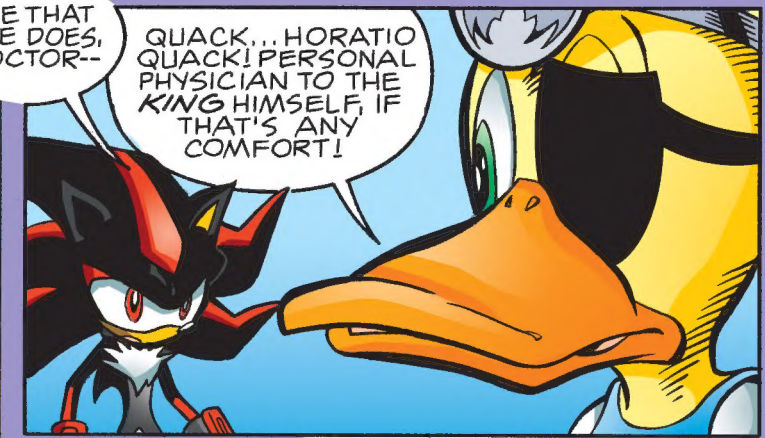
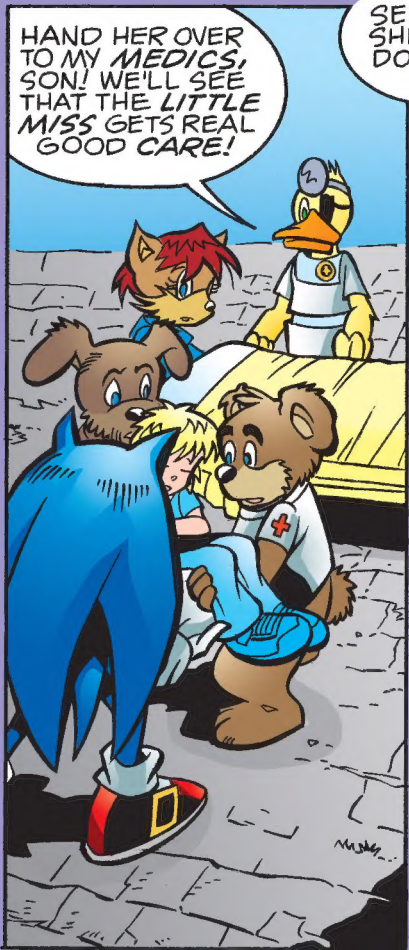
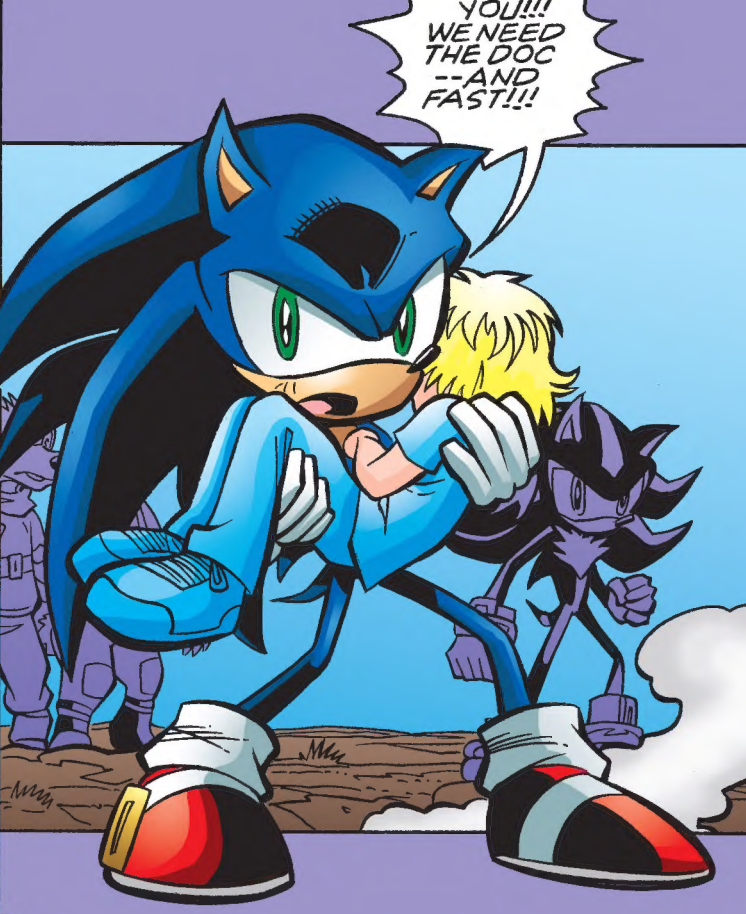
YOU SPOKE
TOO SOON,
COMMANDER!

THERE THEY ARE--
TEARING THROUGH
KNOTHOLE CENTER
ITSELF!

SO MUCH
FOR THE
JAMMING
FAIL-
SAFES!

WHAT
TH--?!!

BTWOOM!!



SONIC! THANK THE SOURCE YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!

I'M STILL TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHY YOUR WHACKED-OUT DEFENSE PROJECT WAS EVER GREENLIGHTED IN THE FIRST PLACE!

--SINCE OL' ROBO-BUTT WOULD BE JUST THE MEGALO-MANIAC TO DO SO?!

DID ANY OF THE GENIUSES AROUND HERE EVER CONSIDER IF ANYONE COULD BREACH OUR CYBER-SECURITY MEASURES--

THAT'S ABOUT ALL I'LL BE THANKFUL FOR!

JUST BECAUSE HE CREATED METAL SONIC MANY TIMES OVER DOESN'T MEAN HE OWNS THE PATENT!

AND IT DOESN'T GIVE ANYONE ELSE THE RIGHT TO INVOLVE ME IN THEIR CRACKPOT SCHEMES!

I WASN'T THE ONE WHO AUTHORIZED THE PROJECT!

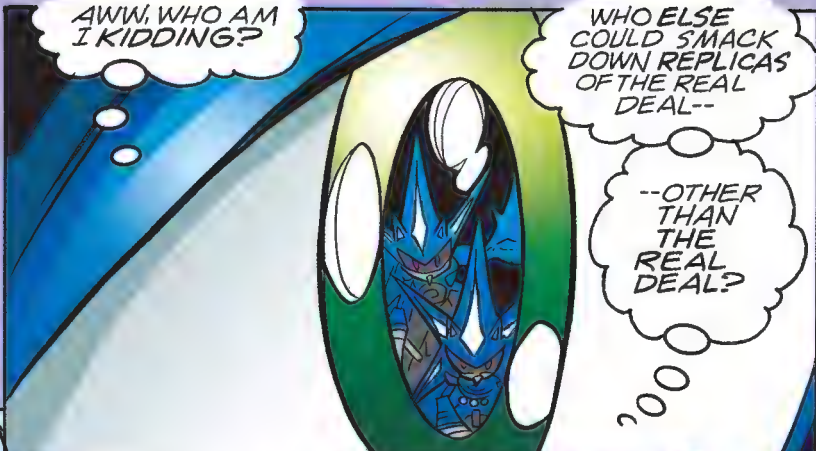
WE'LL DEAL WITH THAT LATER!

WE HAVE MORE URGENT MATTERS TO ATTEND!

BY "WE," YOU MEAN "ME"...! I'M ON IT!



THIS HERO-JAZZ CAN BE A PAIN AT TIMES! JUST ONCE, I'D LIKE TO SEE SOMEONE ELSE LEAD THE CHARGE!



AWW, WHO AM I KIDDING?

WHO ELSE COULD SMACK DOWN REPLICAS OF THE REAL DEAL--

--OTHER THAN THE REAL DEAL?



ONE BLUE BLUR COMING THROUGH!!! YOU SIMULATED-SONICS ARE GOING DOWN!

KLANG!
KLANG!



CORRECTION: IT IS YOU WHO FACES ELIMINATION--

ZZAPP



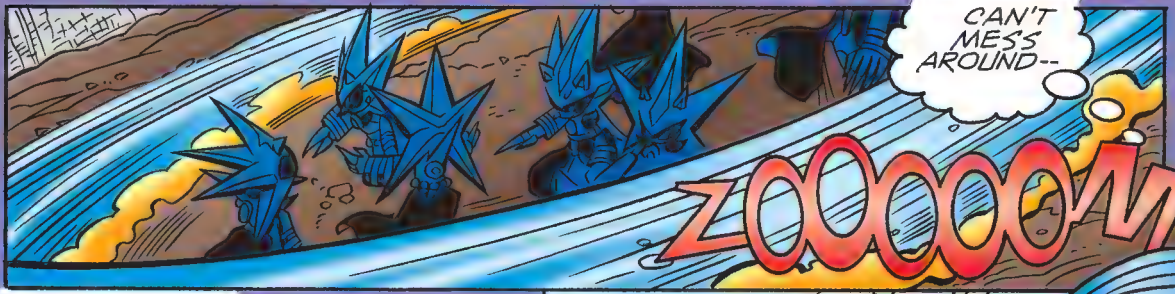
--ALONG WITH ANY WHO THREATEN THE KINGDOM'S EXISTENCE!

WHICH KINGDOM IS THAT? LAST I HEARD, THIS IS ONE YOU'RE PROGRAMMED TO PROTECT!



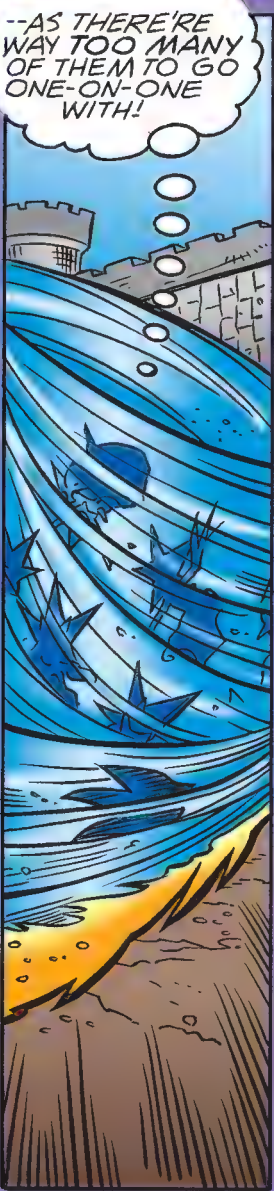
IMPOSSIBLE! OUR PROGRAMMING IS IMPERVIUS TO TAMPERING!

SAYS YOU--

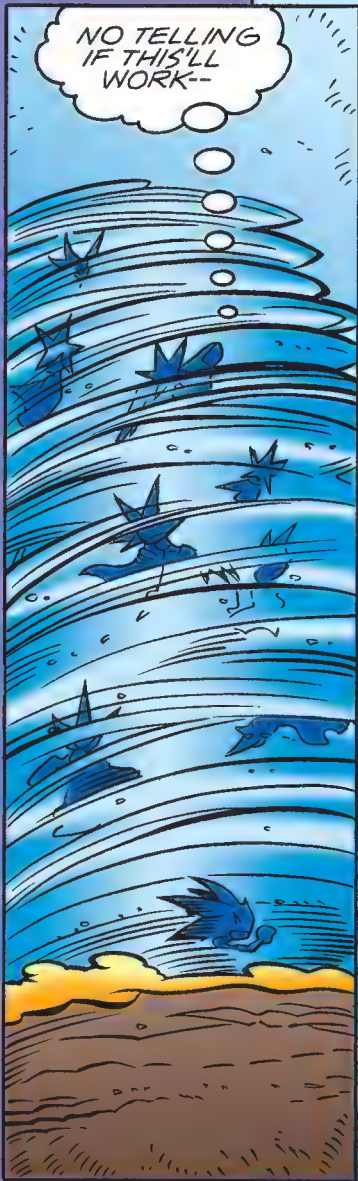


CAN'T MESS AROUND--

ZOOOOOW



--AS THERE'RE WAY TOO MANY OF THEM TO GO ONE-ON-ONE WITH!



NO TELLING IF THIS'LL WORK--



--MAYBE SOMETHING NEW WILL THROW THEM OFF!

WELL, WHADDAYA KNOW?



--IF THIS SCRAMBLES THEIR CIRCUITS ENOUGH--

--ALONG WITH THE FALL--



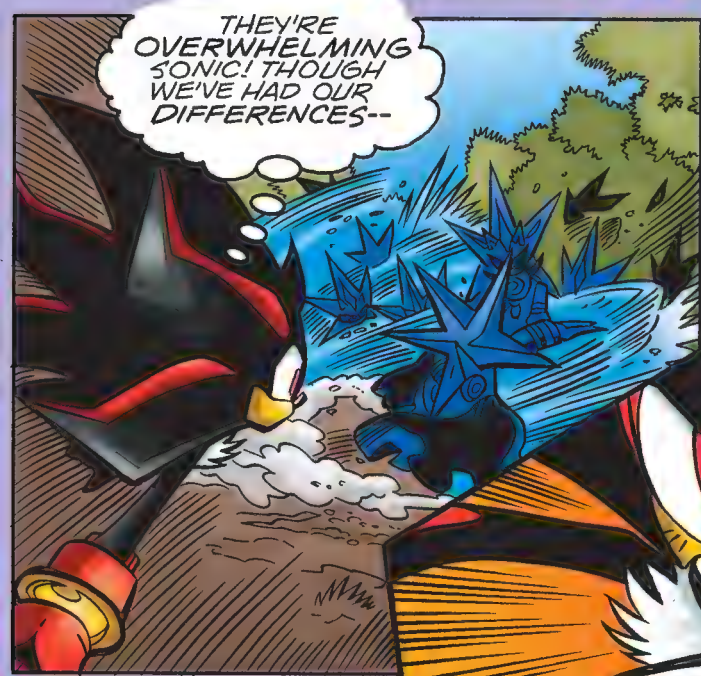
UGH!

WAAAM



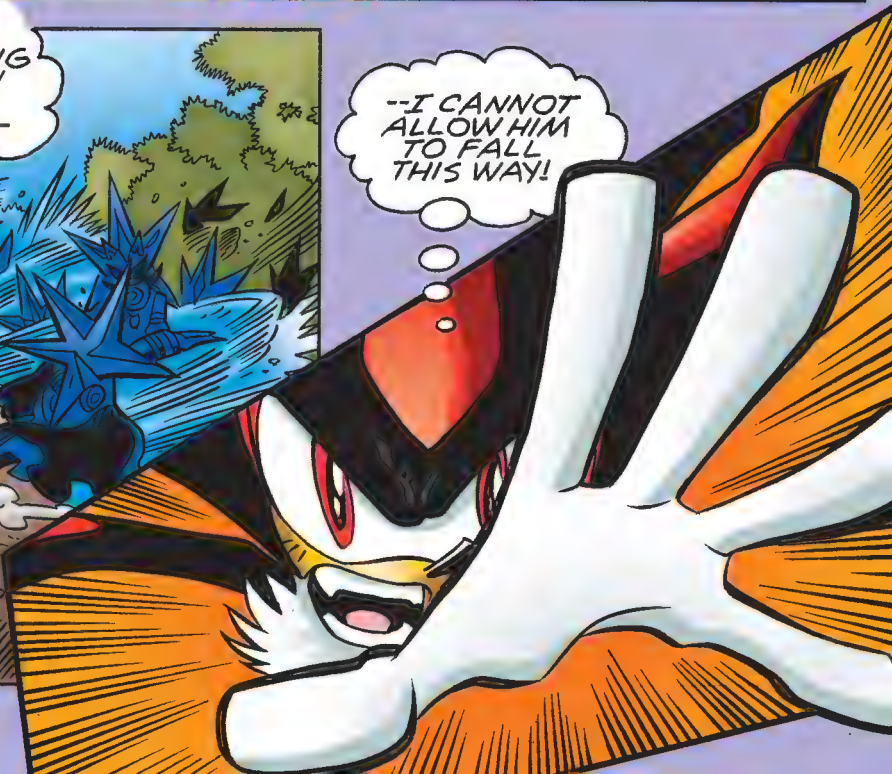
WE WERE MODELLED TO SERVE IN YOUR STEAD --AND YET YOU ATTACK US!

YEAH--GASP-- MUST BE THOSE MISPLACED PRIORITIES OF YOURS!



THEY'RE OVERWHELMING SONIC! THOUGH WE'VE HAD OUR DIFFERENCES--

--I CANNOT ALLOW HIM TO FALL THIS WAY!





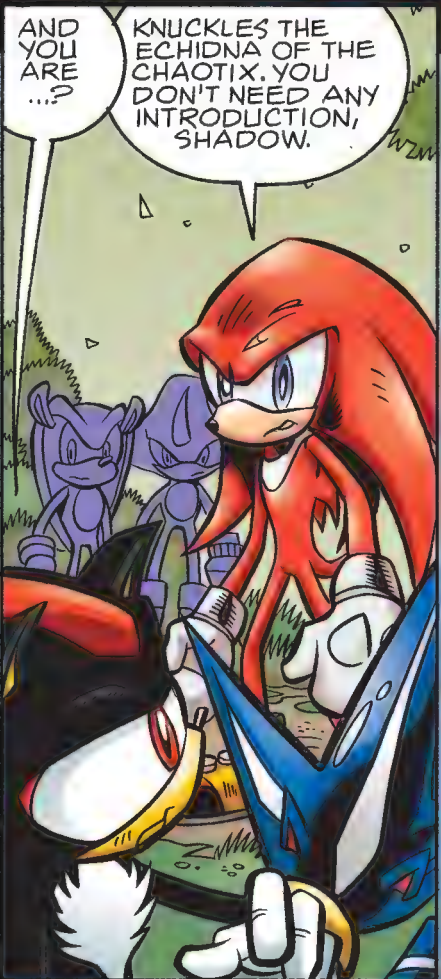
I DON'T UNDERSTAND!

ALL I DID WAS RAISE MY HAND--

--AND NOW ALL ARE DEMOBILIZED!

HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?

CHAOS CONTROL?



AND YOU ARE ...?

KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA OF THE CHAOTIX. YOU DON'T NEED ANY INTRODUCTION, SHADOW.



YOU KNOW NOTHING OF CHAOS CONTROL, KNUCKLES. I REQUIRE A CHAOS EMERALD TO PERFORM THAT TECHNIQUE.

NOT IF YOU DREW THE POWER FROM THE CHAOS FORCE.



BUT ONLY US GUARDIANS HAVE EVER BEEN ABLE TO CONTROL SOME OF THAT POWER.

I AM THE ULTIMATE LIFEFORM FOR SURE.



CAN WE TURN DOWN THE VOLUME? OOH, MY HEAD...



FINISHED RESTING, BLUE HEDGEHOG?

SHUT UP, FAKER.



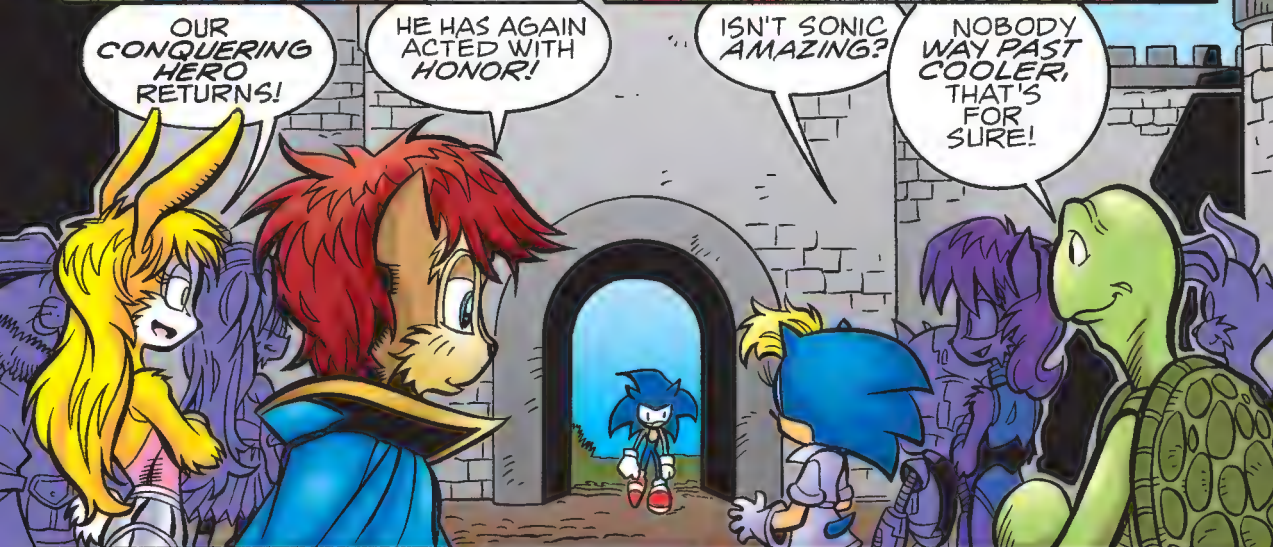
YOU TWO KEEP GOSSIPING, WE'RE OFF TO SAVE THE DAY!

I'M READY, ALREADY!



THANKS FOR THE SAVE, SHADOW! I OWE YOU NOTHING.

THEN WE'RE EVEN, SONIC.

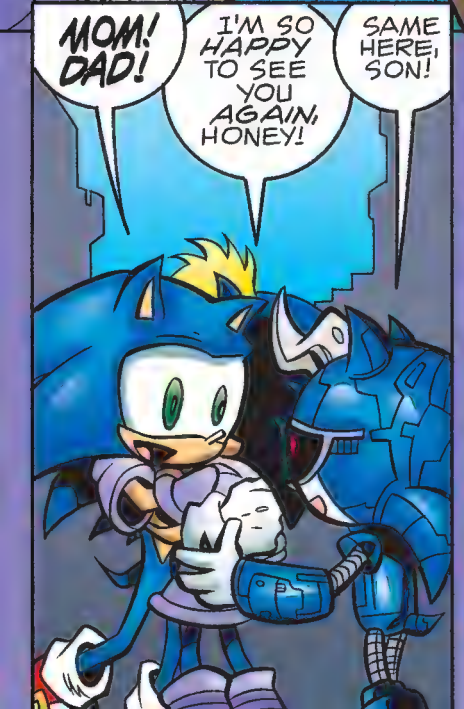


OUR CONQUERING HERO RETURNS!

HE HAS AGAIN ACTED WITH HONOR!

ISN'T SONIC AMAZING?

NOBODY WAY PAST COOLER, THAT'S FOR SURE!



MOM! DAD!

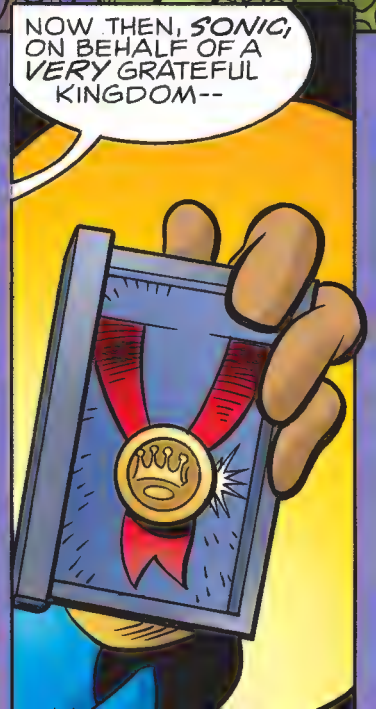
I'M SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU AGAIN, HONEY!

SAME HERE, SON!

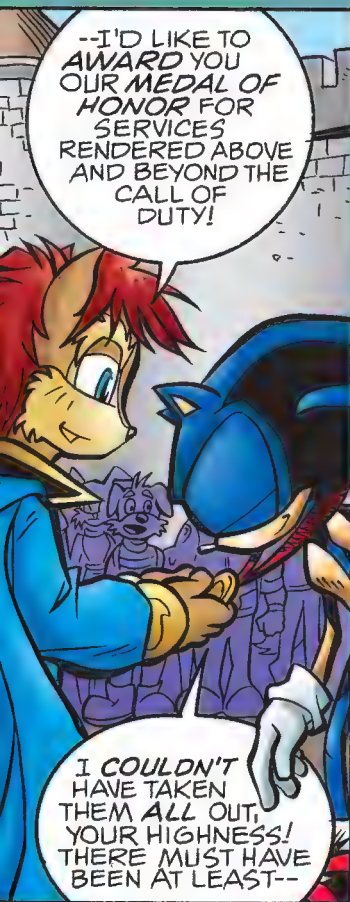


IF I MAY BE PERMITTED TO INTERRUPT, I HAVE A FEW WORDS TO SAY ON BEHALF OF THE KINGDOM!

KING ELIAS! BUT OF COURSE, SIRE!

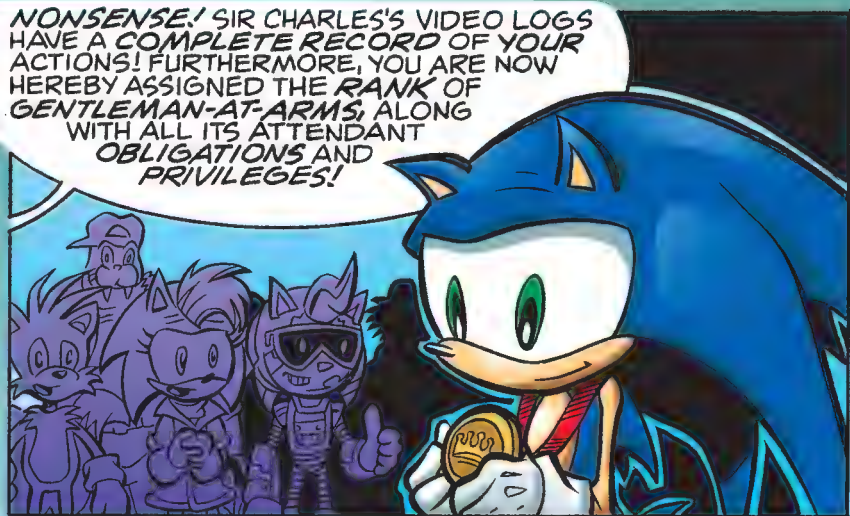


NOW THEN, SONIC, ON BEHALF OF A VERY GRATEFUL KINGDOM--

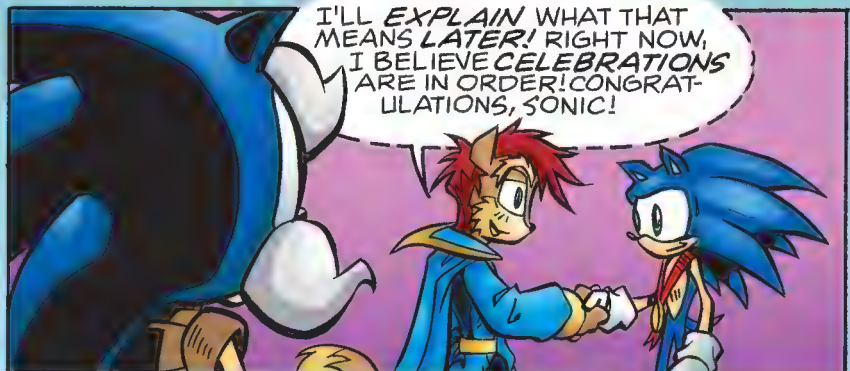


--I'D LIKE TO AWARD YOU OUR MEDAL OF HONOR FOR SERVICES RENDERED ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY!

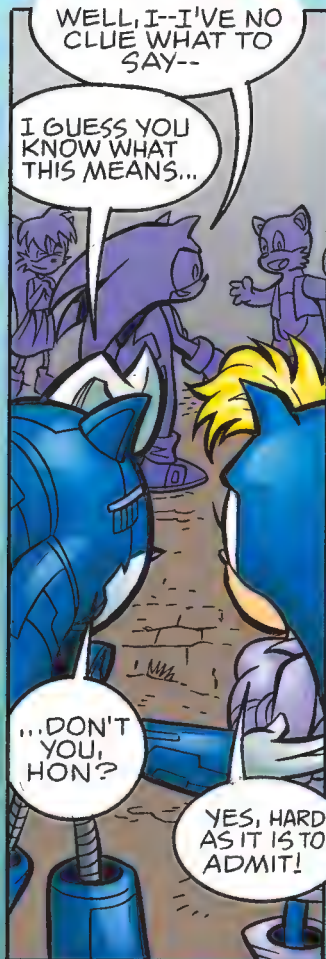
I COULDN'T HAVE TAKEN THEM ALL OUT, YOUR HIGHNESS! THERE MUST HAVE BEEN AT LEAST--



NONSENSE! SIR CHARLES'S VIDEO LOGS HAVE A COMPLETE RECORD OF YOUR ACTIONS! FURTHERMORE, YOU ARE NOW HEREBY ASSIGNED THE RANK OF GENTLEMAN-AT-ARMS, ALONG WITH ALL ITS ATTENDANT OBLIGATIONS AND PRIVILEGES!



I'LL EXPLAIN WHAT THAT MEANS LATER! RIGHT NOW, I BELIEVE CELEBRATIONS ARE IN ORDER! CONGRATULATIONS, SONIC!



WELL, I-I-I'VE NO CLUE WHAT TO SAY--

I GUESS YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS...

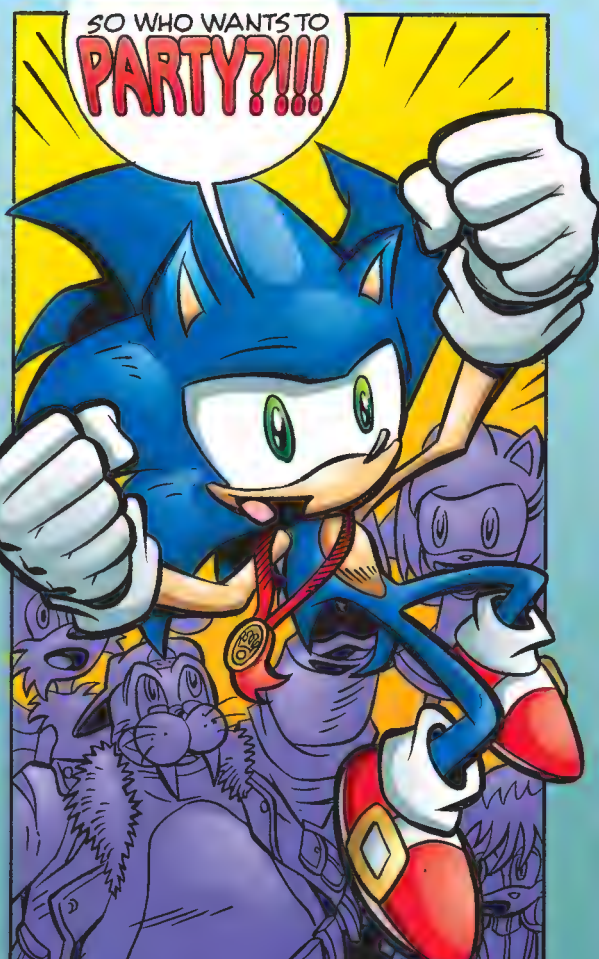
...DON'T YOU, HON?

YES, HARD AS IT IS TO ADMIT!



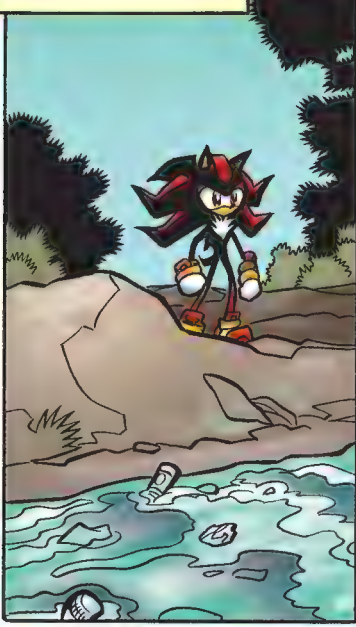
HE'S NOT OUR LITTLE ONE ANY MORE!

I KNOW! HE'S OUR LITTLE ONE-AT-ARMS!

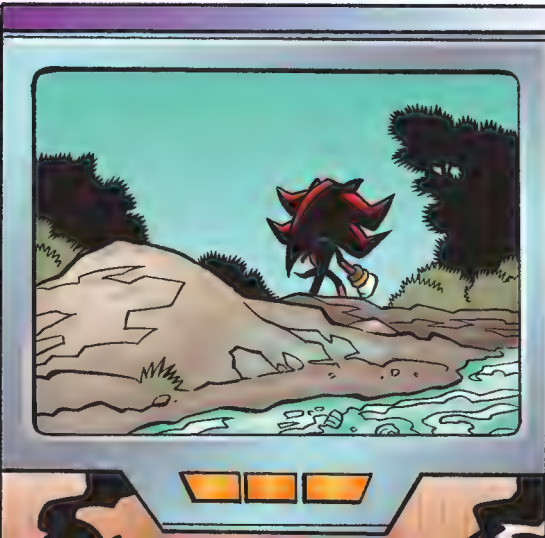
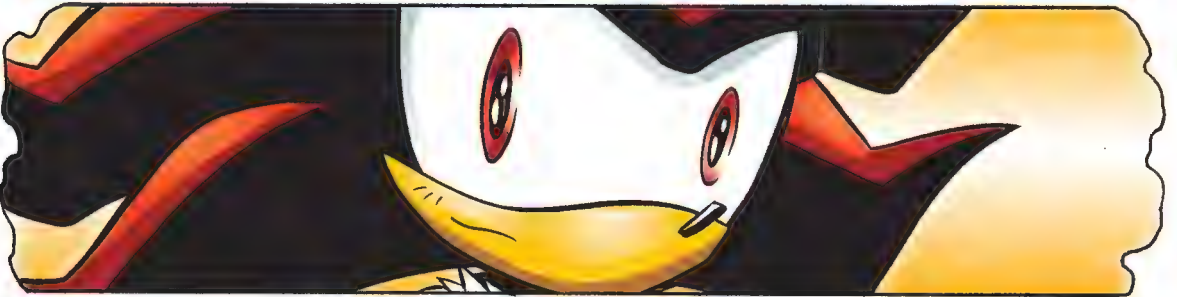
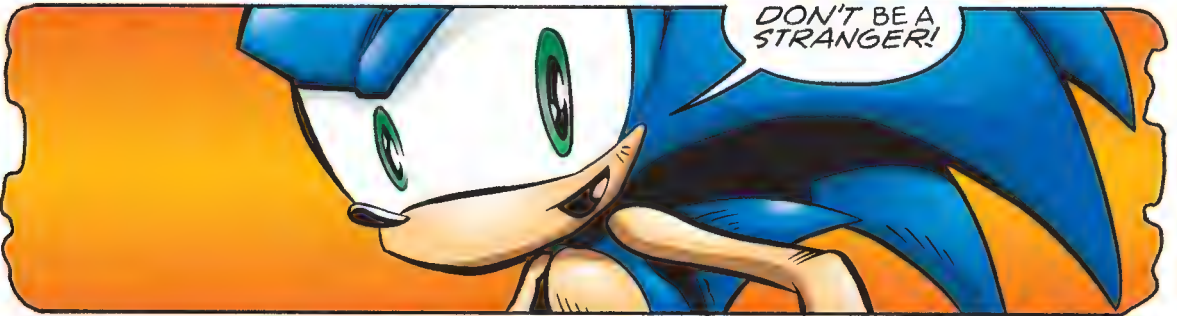


SO WHO WANTS TO PARTY?!!!

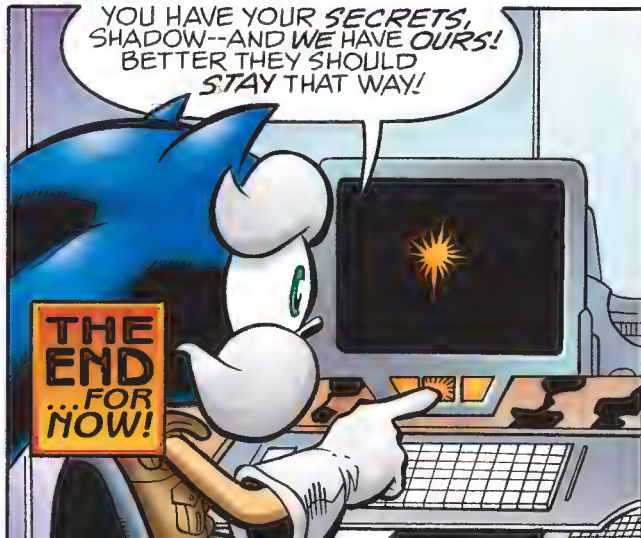
ELSEWHERE, AT THAT SAME MOMENT..



DON'T BE A STRANGER!



YOU HAVE YOUR *SECRETS*, SHADOW--AND WE HAVE *OURS*! BETTER THEY SHOULD *STAY* THAT WAY!



THE END FOR NOW!



GOOD MORNING, FATHER.

BAH!
WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT IT?

COME TO THINK OF IT, I CAN'T RECALL A GOOD MORNING WITHIN RECENT MEMORY!

YOUR RESEARCH CONTINUES AND YOUR LIEUTENANTS CONTINUE MAINTAINING YOUR INFRASTRUCTURE.



MY LIEUTENANTS?!!

SNIVELING WORMS LOOKING TO STAB ME IN THE BACK AT THE FIRST CHANCE --

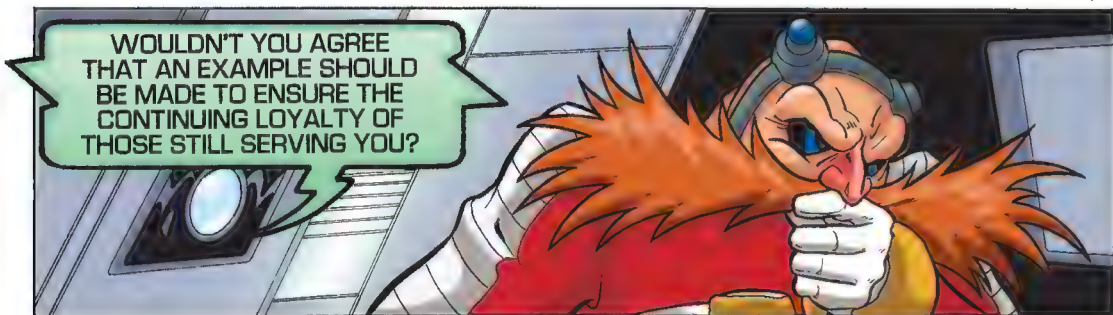
-- JUST LIKE THAT TREACHEROUS WEASEL, SNIVELY!!!

CAN YOU IMAGINE? BETRAYING ME TO MY WORST ENEMY IN ALL THE WORLD?!

THE DESPICABLE DR. ROBOTNIK

INSIDIOUS

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY KEN PENDERS
COLORED BY JOSH AND AIMEE RAY



WOULDN'T YOU AGREE THAT AN EXAMPLE SHOULD BE MADE TO ENSURE THE CONTINUING LOYALTY OF THOSE STILL SERVING YOU?

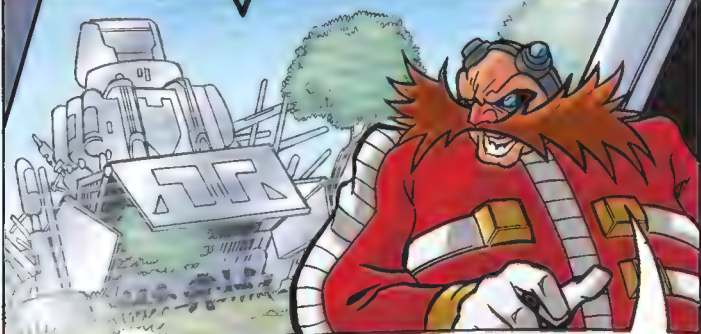
BEYOND QUESTION -- -- AND PAINFULLY SO!



BUT THE ONE I DESIRE ABOVE ALL TO SEE THE ULTIMOST EXCRUTIATING PUNISHMENT INFLICTED UPON IS CURRENTLY BEYOND MY REACH!

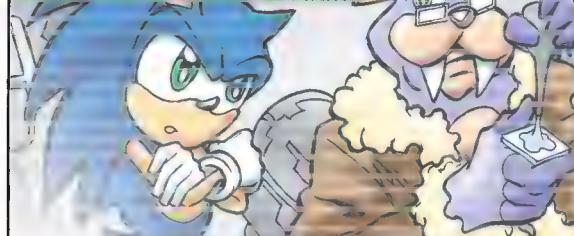
THE EVIDENCE SUGGESTS OTHERWISE, FATHER.

PERHAPS THIS VISUAL LOG OF EXPERIMENT X-51 WILL REFRESH YOUR MEMORY.



AHH, YES! I DIDN'T REALIZE RECREATING METAL SONIC COULD GET SO OUT OF HAND!

AS YOU CAN SEE, A SAMPLE OF NANITES WAS DRAWN FOR EXAMINATION. *



* VISUAL LOG SEQUENCES OF EVENTS AS SEEN IN SONIC #152.

EGADS! THOSE FOOLS CAN NOW ACCESS MY TECHNOLOGY!

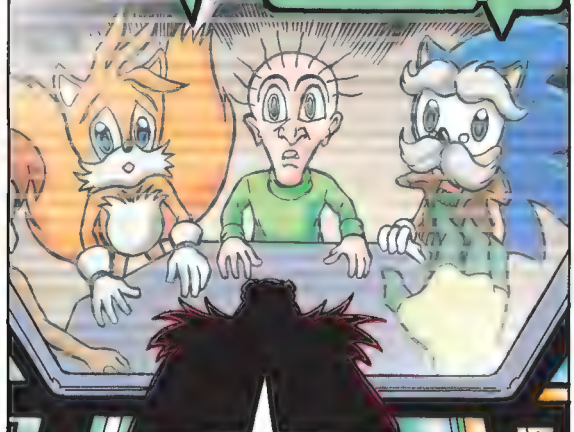
IT'S HARD ENOUGH STAYING AHEAD WITHOUT HANDING OVER PROPRIETARY INFORMATION ON A PLATTER!

TURNABOUT CAN ALSO BE FAIR PLAY, EVEN WHEN UNINTENTIONAL.

THIS VIDEO STREAM WAS RECEIVED WHEN THE NANITES WERE TRANSMITTING TO THEIR OWN KIND ELSEWHERE.

AFFIRMATIVE.

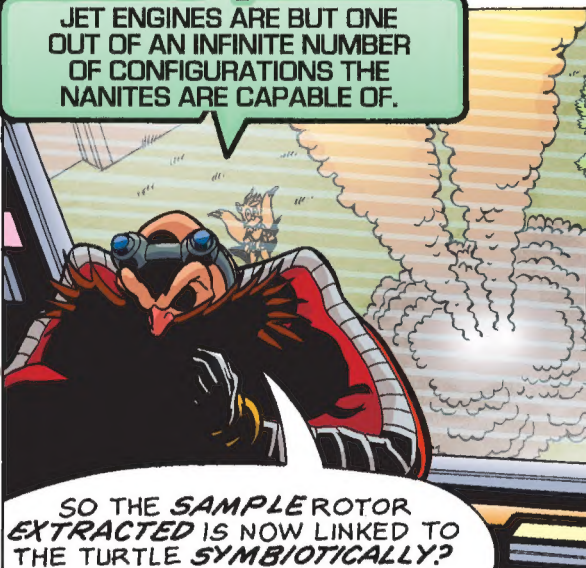
NOT EVEN A RADICAL CHANGE OF ENVIRONMENT COULD DISRUPT THE SIGNAL.



YOU MEAN THEY COMMUNICATE AMONGST EACH OTHER DESPITE WHATEVER DISTANCE OF SEPARATION?

FREEZE FRAME THE AERIAL ACROBATICS!

SINCE WHEN COULD NANITES DEFY GRAVITY?



JET ENGINES ARE BUT ONE OUT OF AN INFINITE NUMBER OF CONFIGURATIONS THE NANITES ARE CAPABLE OF.

AFFIRMATIVE.

NOW SWITCHING TO REAL-TIME TRANSMISSION.


SO THE *SAMPLER ROTOR EXTRACTED* IS NOW LINKED TO THE TURTLE *SYMBIOTICALLY*?

A CORRIDOR!!

WHY ON MOBIUS WOULD I BE INTERESTED IN THAT?!!



IT'S WHERE THE CORRIDOR LEADS TO THAT MAY INTEREST YOU.



JUST PRESS YOUR PALM DOWN ON THE *SCANNER* HERE WHILE LOOKING STRAIGHT AHEAD INTO THE CAMERA IN FRONT OF YOU, TOMMY!

AUDIO ON.

SIR CHARLES AND HIS BROTHER JULES!

WHAT COULD THEY BE UP TO? CAN WE GET SOUND?

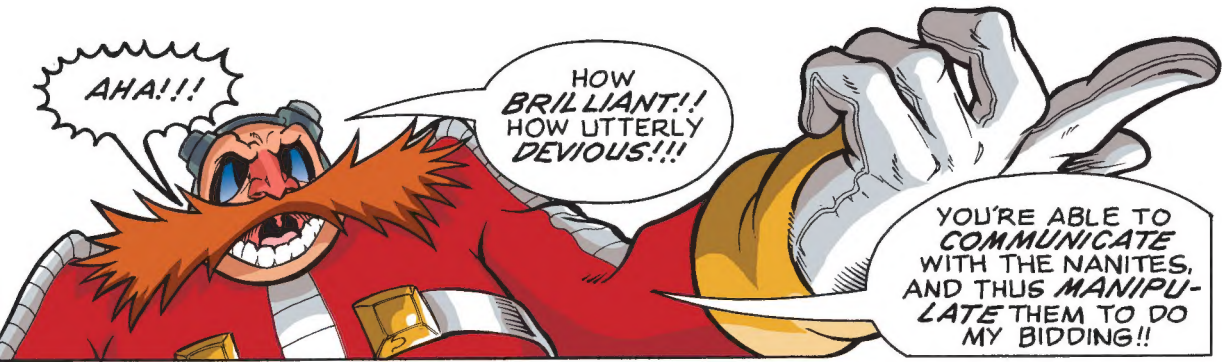


"WHAT JUST HAPPENED, A.D.A.M.? I DON'T UNDERSTAND."

"THE COMPUTER CONSOLE BEING A NATURAL SOURCE OF RAW MATERIALS ENABLING THE NANITES TO MULTIPLY AND GROW."

"I TRANSMITTED A SIGNAL, FATHER, TRIGGERING A GROWTH SPURT IN THE NANITES."

"BUT FOR WHAT PURPOSE?!"

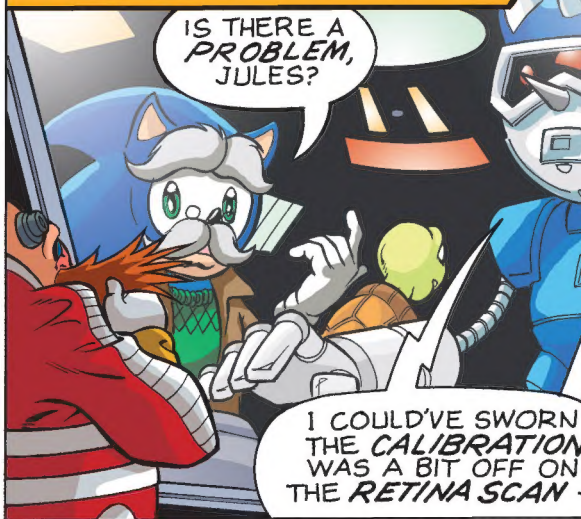


AHA!!!

HOW BRILLIANT!!
HOW UTTERLY DEVIOUS!!!

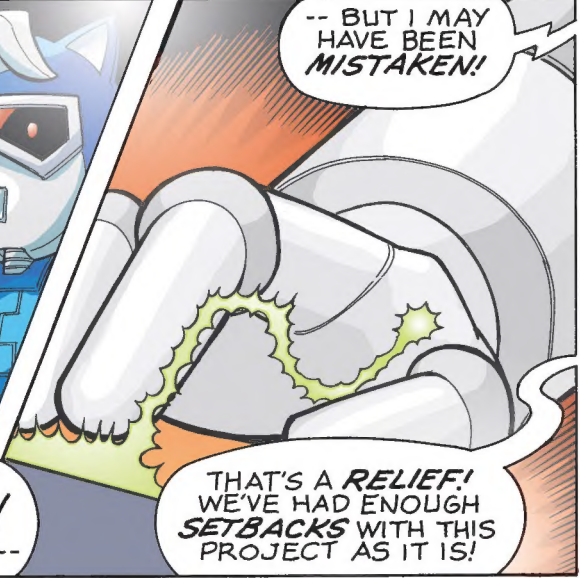
YOU'RE ABLE TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE NANITES, AND THUS MANIPULATE THEM TO DO MY BIDDING!!

"WITH NONE OF THE KING'S DUPES ANY THE WISER! I LOVE IT!!!"



IS THERE A PROBLEM, JULES?

I COULD'VE SWORN THE CALIBRATION WAS A BIT OFF ON THE RETINA SCAN --



-- BUT I MAY HAVE BEEN MISTAKEN!

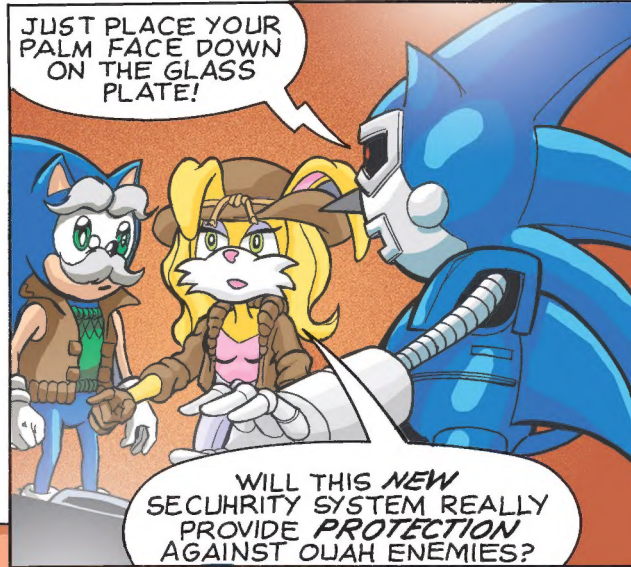
THAT'S A RELIEF! WE'VE HAD ENOUGH SETBACKS WITH THIS PROJECT AS IT IS!



SO THE NANITES HAVE INFILTRATED THE ROBOTICIZED HEDGEHOG'S SYSTEM?

AFFIRMATIVE.

NEXT! STEP RIGHT UP, BUNNIE!



JUST PLACE YOUR PALM FACE DOWN ON THE GLASS PLATE!

WILL THIS NEW SECURITY SYSTEM REALLY PROVIDE PROTECTION AGAINST OUAH ENEMIES?

"BEYOND A DOUBT!"

SUCH SWEETNESS! SUCH FAITH!

WHO COULD POSSIBLY BETRAY SUCH A TRUSTING YOUNG SOUL?



THEN SHE IS NOT TO BE INFILTRATED?

ON THE
CONTRARY,
A.D.A.M.!

SHE'LL MAKE A
WONDERFUL **AGENT**
WHEN THE TIME IS
RIGHT! SEE TO IT!

THIS IS ALMOST
700 EASY! LIKE
TAKING CANDY
FROM **SNIVELY!**

YOU'RE CERTAIN
WE'RE NOT
DEPLETING OUR
SUPPLY OF
NANITES?

NEGATIVE. THE MICROCHIPS
AND ELECTRICAL CHARGES FROM
THE MAIN CONSOLE PROVIDE
MORE THAN ENOUGH
SUSTENANCE FOR THE NANITES.

OF ALL THE
@#6%!E\$ -- !!

IF YOU MESS'D
THIS ONE UP,
A.D.A.M., I'LL
REPROGRAM YOU
INTO A **STEMBOLT
REPLICATOR!**

WAIT! THE **RAB-BOT**
SEEMS TO BE GETTING
WOZZY! THIS COULD BE
A **PROBLEM!**

DON'T WORRY,
SIR CHARLES!
I'LL BE ALL
RIGHT!

WHO SAYS ALL
NEWS IS **BAD**
NEWS?

I CAN'T
WAIT TO
SEE **WHO'S**
UP **NEXT!**

**NOW WE'RE
TALKING!!!**

BY THE TIME I'M
DONE WITH **HIM**, IT'LL
GIVE **NEW** MEANING TO
THE WORD **"TWISTED"!**

UNFORTUNATELY, THE HEDGEHOG IS ORGANIC AND NOT SUSCEPTIBLE TO THE NANITES--

D'OH!

THEN HOW DO YOU *EXPLAIN* THE NANITES ON THAT *BLASTED TURTLE?*

-- WHEREAS THE CHEMICAL COMPOSITION OF THE SHELL IS COMPATIBLE WITH THE NANITES.

AS THE HEDGEHOG OFFERED NO SUCH COMPATIBILITY, OUR NEXT SUBJECT MORE THAN MEETS THE MINIMUM REQUIRED STANDARDS.

NO KIDDING!

THE *PRINCESS* RELIES HEAVILY ON THAT *PORTABLE MAINFRAME!*

DON'T SPARE THE *LITTLE BUGGERS* ON *THIS ONE*, A.D.A.M.!

"YES! EXCELLENT, A.D.A.M.!"

THE PLAN IS PERFECT! FINALLY...

I'M BACK IN BUSINESS!!!

I'LL NOW KNOW *EVERYTHING* THEY DO AND SAY --

-- AND WHEN THEY *LEAST* EXPECT IT, THAT'S THE TIME I'LL STRIKE!

HAAHAHAHAHA